

Children's Rehabilitative Services Transferring to AHCCCS January 1, 2011

Dear Stakeholder,

Starting on January 1, the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) will take over the administrative oversight of the Children's Rehabilitative Services program (CRS). CRS provides medical care and support services to children and youth who have certain chronic or disabling conditions. Children and families should not see a change, since the same services will continue to be provided by the same physicians at the same CRS clinics.

For the past several years both the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) and AHCCCS have been involved in overseeing the program, including the contract with APIPA-CRS to manage CRS. As everyone has been looking for ways to streamline government, ADHS and AHCCCS agreed to simplify the administrative structure of CRS by moving all of its oversight to AHCCCS. ADHS and AHCCCS are working closely together to ensure a smooth transition to members and providers.

Although ADHS's Office for Children with Special Health Care Needs (OCSHCN) will no longer oversee the APIPA-CRS contract, OCSHCN will continue to be available to support families with information and resources. As the Title V designee for children and youth with special health care needs in Arizona, OCSHCN promotes access to integrated healthcare and the development of medical homes. OCSHCN offers resources and training for families and providers on care coordination, transition to adulthood, family-centered care, cultural competence, and families as partners at all levels of decision-making from individual care choices to participating in policy development.

OCSHCN staff looks forward to working with stakeholders and community partners to further the vision that children and youth with special health care needs are included in all aspects of life and are able to achieve their full potential. OCSHCN can be reached at 602-542-1860, 800-232-1676 or by email at OCSHCN@azdhs.gov.

Website: <http://www.azdhs.gov/phs/ocshcn>